

BENJAMIN DISRAELI (1804-1881)

- In 1865, Lord Palmerston died.
- 'Curiosities of Literature' was written by Isaac Disraeli, father of Benjamin Disraeli.
- He formed a new political group of his own called the 'Young England.'
- In 1848, he began to lead the Conservative Party.
- In 1867, due to the efforts of Disraeli, the 2nd Reform Act was passed.
- The Suez Canal was built in Egypt in 1866-69.
- On January 1, 1877, Queen Victoria assumed the title of The Empress of India.

Early Career of Disraeli:-

- was born in a Jewish family on December 21, 1804.
- He took interest in French, Latin literature and especially in history.
- He wrote some novels on political issues. His famous novel is 'Vivian Grey'.
- Elected to the Parliament in 1837 at the age of 33.
- He opposed the policy of Peel's Free Trade and made a group 'Young England.'
- began to lead the Conservative Party in 1848.
- Chancellor of Exchequer in the Ministry of Lord Derby in 1852.
- After the resignation of Lord Derby, Disraeli was made PM for a short period in 1868.
- He became again PM of England in 1874 to 1880.
- He passed away in April 1881.

New Toryism of Benjamin Disraeli:- His programme is pronounced in the following three words:

"The Constitution, The Empire and Social Reforms"

→ He was of the view that "The palace is not safe when the people living in the cottage are unhappy."

His words were: New Toryism believed in preserving their institutions, maintaining their Empire and improving the lot of the people.

Home Policy of Disraeli:- He was naturally against reforms but when he saw that his party could not muster strength without the cooperation of the labourers, he was obliged to follow a policy of reforms.

- 1) Second Reform Act, 1867:- He got the 2nd Reform Act passed which extended the right to vote to the labourers and artisans residing in urban areas ~~in the towns~~.
- 2) Artisan's Dwelling Act, 1875:- which provided large and airy dwelling units for the labourers. Many slums were cleared and new and airy houses were built in large numbers.
- 3) Public Health Act, 1875:- many steps were taken in the direction of health and sanitation.
- 4) The Employees and Workmen Act, 1876:- allowed the employees and workmen to form Trade Unions and convene for a strike peacefully.
- 5) The Merchant Shipping Act, 1876:- according to which no owner would send such a ship on voyage which was unfit for going to sea. Moreover, loading of ships beyond a specified limit was prohibited.

6) The Enclosures of Common Land's Act, 1876:- Because of enclosures, no pastures were left out for the cattle to graze and no wood was available to fire to make for a common man.

7) Agricultural Holding Act, 1878:- If a peasant was to be dispossessed of his land in that case he was to be paid compensation.

8) Factory and Workshop Act, 1878:- This Act specified the working hours for women and children. It was also laid down that children below the age of 10 years were in no case be employed.

9) Licensing Act, 1874:- Closing hours for the wine-shops were fixed at 10 P.M. in the villages and 11 P.M. in the town.

10) Lease and Sales of Settled Estate Act, 1875:- according to which the rules for lease and sales were simplified.

11) Universities Act, 1878:- The universities could impose some taxes on affiliated colleges to meet their expenses.

12) Contagious Diseases of Animals Act 1878:- all animals imported from other countries were slaughtered unless these could not suffer contagious disease.

13) Act Regarding Churches in Scotland:- the power of appointment on the posts of Church of Scotland to the religious congregations.

Foreign Policy of Disraeli:-

Imperialist and Foreign Policy:-

Disraeli did not want to abandon any colony that was under the British control. In pursuance of his imperialistic policy and in order to make the English Empire gigantic and progressive. He took the

following steps:

- 1) Purchase of shares of The Suez Canal: It was built in Egypt in 1866-69. 40% of its shares were bought by ruler of Egypt, Khedive Ismail Pasha. Disraeli bought these shares of the company on behalf of The British Government. The purchase of these shares gave an important hand to Britain in the management of the canal.
- 2) Assumption of Title of The Empress of India by Queen Victoria on January 1, 1877: Disraeli got the Royal Titles Act passed by the Parliament in 1876.
- 3) The Second Afghan War, 1878-80: was fought to contain the Russian influence in Afghanistan. Although this war ended in the favor of England yet they had to suffer immense losses at many places. He could not bear this insult and eventually died the following year in 1881.
- 4) Disraeli and the Eastern Question: Turkey entered into a treaty with Russia in 1878, Treaty of San Stefano. According to this Treaty, a big state called Bulgaria was to be formed. Thus the Russian influence in the Balkan region increased to a great extent.
→ Disraeli reminded Russia of the Treaty of Paris of 1856 in which it was decided that the boundaries of the Turkish Empire would be honoured. So, the Treaty of Berlin concluded in 1878, Bulgaria was cut very short to contain the Russian influence.
- 5) Checking the Aggressive Policy of Germany: Disraeli said in clear words that if France was attacked again, England would help her. Similarly Disraeli prevented Germany from interfering in the internal affairs of Belgium.

GLADSTONE (1809-1898)

Early Career:

- Most famous PM of the Victorian era.
- born to a rich trader of Liverpool in 1809.
- got his education in Eton and Oxford.
- elected to the Parliament in 1832 - 1895.
- Peel made him the Junior Lord of the Treasury in 1834.
- President of the Board of Trade in 1841.
- In the beginning he was Tory but later joined Liberal Party.
- Gladstone had the privilege of becoming PM of England for four times (1868-74) (1880-85) (few months in 1886) (1892-94)

Home Policy of Gladstone :- The period of Gladstone's PMship is regarded as the 'Period of Greatest Reforms in the 19th Century' by most of the historians.

A) Parliamentary Reforms:-

- 1) Efforts for the passage of Second Reform Act:- He presented a Parliamentary Reform Bill in 1866 but ~~for~~ rejected due to opposition from the party members.
- 2) The Secret Ballot Act, 1872:- passed under the PMship of Gladstone.
- 3) The Third Reform Act, 1884:- which extended the right to vote to such people living in rural areas.
- 4) Redistribution of Seats Act, 1885:-
 - No member from less than 15000 people's town
 - One " " 15000 to 50,000
 - Two " " more than 50,000

B) Educational Reforms:-

- 1) Primary Education Act, 1870:- A school board was constituted in every district which was bound to provide education to children between 5 to 12 years of age.
- 2) University Test Act, 1871:- after passing this Act, no student could be deprived of higher education because of his religion.
- 3) Education Act, 1880:- made primary education compulsory for all.
- 4) Reform in the Secondary and College Education:- many schools and colleges were opened in various parts of the country. In 1881, provision for the education of women was also made.

C) Social Reforms:-

- 1) Trade Union Act, 1871:-
- 2) Licensing Act of 1872:-
- 3) Burials Act, 1880:- Christians of all sects were allowed to bury their dead within the courtyard of the Parish Church.
- 4) Employer's Liability Act, 1880:- It was made compulsory for the factory owners to pay compensation to the labourers in case of any accident.
- 5) Agriculture Holdings Act, 1883:-

D) Judicial and Administrative Reforms:-

- 1) Government Services Act, 1870:- laid down that only selected people through competitive examinations were to be given high jobs in the government offices.

2) Judicator Act, 1873:- This Act provided for a Supreme Court which had two courts under it, a High Court of Justice and a Court of Appeal, rather than eight kinds of courts before.

E) Army Reforms:-

- 1) Relieved the Commander-in-Chief his administrative duties:-
- 2) Shifted his office from Horse Guards to War Office:-
- 3) Appointment of able people to Military posts:-
- 4) Army Enlistment Act:- a soldier, after serving for six years could go home if he so desired.
- 5) Linked Battalion System:- every regiment was divided into two units: one worked in the country and one worked abroad turn by turn.

IRISH POLICY OF GLADSTONE

Irish Problems:-

- 1) Religious question:- In Ireland, majority was Roman Catholic. They had not faith in the Church of England. Owing to this: They could not get high jobs and education and could not become the members of the Parliament.
- 2) Economic problem:- land used to be snatched from the Roman Catholics of Ireland and was distributed among the protestants who treated the Irish

peasants very badly. Irish Traders could not export their goods to such countries where English goods were sent.

3) Political Problem:- Many of the politicians were against the Irish Act of Union of 1800. They wanted political freedom.

Irish Policy of Gladstone:-

1) Efforts made to solve the religious problem:-

→ The Catholic Emancipation Act of 1829 and the Irish Tithes Act of 1838.

- Disestablishment and Disendowment Act, 1869:-
The Church of Ireland had now nothing to do with the state. Church of Ireland began to manage its affairs itself and began to elect their Bishops.

2) Solution of Economic Problem:-

i) First Irish Land Act, 1870:- According to this Act, when a landlord ^{would} remove a tenant from his land, he had to pay full compensation for expenditure incurred by the tenant for the permanent uplift of the land.

ii) Second Irish Land Act, 1881:- Three reforms were made: i) Fixed Tenure ii) Fixed Rent iii) Free Sale

→ Land Courts were also established.

→ The Land Commission was asked to fix rent for 15 yrs.

3) Efforts made to solve the political problems:-

Gladstone decided to grant 'Home Rule' to them so that they might have a separate parliament and Ireland might become free in her international

affairs. Moreover, she would not obstruct the working of the British Parliament.

i) The First Home Rule Bill, 1886:- Ireland should have a separate parliament of its own which was empowered to enact laws on all subjects except concerning Defence, Army, Foreign Policy, Colonial Affairs, Trade Laws, Navigation and Currency. But this Bill was rejected by his Liberal Party as well as by Conservative Party.

ii) The Second Home Rule Bill, 1893:- This time bill was approved by the House of Commons but rejected by the House of Lords once again. After the rejection of this bill, Gladstone resigned from the premiership in 1894.

Causes of Gladstone's failure in his Irish Policy:-

- 1) Unable to work due to age factor:-
- 2) Gladstone did not want to use diplomacy and meanness in politics:-
- 3) Unable to grasp the demands of times:-
- 4) Impatient due to old age:-
- 5) Strong Opposition from Ulster:- which wanted to live with England (a province in the north of Ireland).

Foreign Policy of Gladstone

He is known more for his home policy rather than his foreign policy. He was made PM again and again for his home policy and had to resign again and again his foreign policy because the 19th century was an

era of nationalism and imperialism.

1) Gladstone and Franco-Prussian War, 1870-71:-

The Prussian Army defeated France at Sedan in 1870. Although the English people had sympathy with France yet Gladstone did not pay any heed to the theory of 'Balance of Power' at all and allowed Prussia to grow strong.

2) Breach of the Treaty of Paris by Russia:- Signed in 1856.

Although the presence of the Russian naval ships in the Black Sea was against the interests of the British trade as well as her Indian Empire yet Gladstone did nothing except sending a note of protest.

3) Gladstone and End of Anglo-American Dispute over Alabama

→ 1861-65 → Civil war in America → England manufactured a ship Alabama → USA accused that civil war had lasted longer → International Commission → England had to pay 3m pounds to USA as compensation.

4) Gladstone and Sudan, 1883:- In Sudan, a person Meheri revolted against England. Meheri defeated English forces and put to death English General Gordon in 1885.

Compare and Contrast Gladstone and Disraeli

Disraeli

1) Family:-

→ a Jewish family

2) Education:-

by and large private

3) Way of living:-

→ handsome personality and brilliant dressed man.

Gladstone

→ middle class Christian family

from Eton and Oxford

→ Serious type of man and high ideals

Disraeli:-

4) Power of speech:-

He also gifted the people with ~~three~~ through wis-
dom and clever words.

5) Opportunism:-

He was ^{an} opportunist.

6) Disraeli as a protectionist

7) Attitude towards reforms:-

Disraeli did it to win the
vote of the labourers.

8) Foreign Policy:-

He was imperialist. His
policy was bold and ag-
gressive.

9) Eastern Question:-

Disraeli wanted to see
Turkey strong in order to
contain Russia

10) Policy Towards Ireland:-

was not in favor of giving
any concession to the people
of Ireland.

11) Disraeli was in favor of Cosmopolitan Empires:-

Gladstone:-

great orator and influenced
the audience.

He was not an opportunist.
Gladstone as a free trader.

He brought many reforms to
satisfy his own conscience.

He was a peace-loving person.
His policy was based on canons
of justice and equality.

Gladstone wanted to put that
empire to an end altogether
because she did much cruelty
on the Christians.

But he said, "My mission is
to pacify Ireland."

Gladstone was in favor of
Nationalism and Liberty.

ANGLO-IRISH RELATIONS

→ Many restrictions were imposed on the Catholics of Ireland by the Penal laws of 1692 and 1697.

→ The session of the Irish Parliament was fixed for 8 years by the Octennial Act passed in 1737 during the reign of George II.

→ Lord Lieutenant was supreme authority for the Irish administration.

→ 'The Wealth of Nations' was written by Adam Smith in 1778.

→ In 1780, English Govt. granted full freedom of trade to Ireland.

→ In 1782, The British Parliament passed an Act and granted legislative independence to Ireland.

→ In 1791, 'The United Irishmen' was formed under the leadership of Wolfe Tone.

→ In 1793, The Irish Catholics were given the right to vote by the British PM.

→ On January 1, 1801, The Irish Parliament was abolished.

→ In 1823, The 'Catholic Association' was formed by O'Connell.

→ In 1846, a grave famine hit Ireland.

→ In 1914, The Home Rule Bill was passed by which a separate Parliament for Ireland was established with national autonomy.

→ In December 1921, a treaty was signed by which Southern Ireland became independent with the same status the dominions and accepted membership of the Commonwealth.

Union of England and Ireland

Due to Irish revolt of 1798, The British PM, Pitt decided to unite both the Parliaments to solve the Irish Problem. The British and Irish Parliaments were united by the Union Act of 1800.

Main provisions of the Act of Union:-

- i) After unification, both countries came to be known as the United Kingdom.
- ii) One parliament: 32 memb in House of Lords and 100 memb in House of Commons from Ireland.
- iii) The United Church of both the countries.
- iv) Ireland got full freedom in trade and commerce.
- v) Ireland continued over judicial and administrative system.
- vi) Ireland was to contribute $\frac{2}{7}$ th part of the total expenditure of the UK.
- vii)

Failure of the Union Act, 1800:-

- 1) The Irish people were largely against this Act:-
- 2) Dissatisfaction of the Catholics:- Pitt could not fulfill his promises as George III opposed him bitterly.
→ The problem of Catholic Emancipation
→ The Catholics had also to pay 'Tithes' to the Protestant Church.
- 3) ^{Traders:-} Dissatisfaction of the ~~Farmers~~ ^{Farmers}:- The Irish traders could not send their goods to those countries where the English traders used to send their own goods.
- 4) Dissatisfaction of Tenants:-

Contrast between The Irish and Scottish Acts of Union:-

Anglo-Scottish Union Act of 1707:-

- 1) The Scottish Union was popular.
- 2) Element of brotherhood.
- 3) It was based on moral principles and cooperation.
- 4) Fulfilment of promises: granted religious freedom.
- 5) Religious harmony: protestants were in majority on both sides.
- 6) Union of the Parliaments as well as of the people.

Anglo-Irish Act of Union, 1800:-

- 1) Anglo-Irish Union was unpopular.
- 2) No element of brotherhood as it was ^{not} based on sweet will of people of Ireland.
- 3) The Anglo-Irish Union was the result of bribery and cheating.
- 4) No fulfilment of promises: not gain any freedom.
- 5) Religious disharmony: Catholics were ⁱⁿ the majority in Ireland.
- 6) Union of the Parliaments but not of the people.

THE EASTERN QUESTION

→ In 1815, the term Eastern Question was first of all used at the Vienna Congress.

→ Since 1460, Greece was a part of the Turkish Empire.

→ In 1821, the Greeks raised a standard of revolt against Turkey under the direction of Hetairia Philike.

→ By the Treaty of Adrianople of 1829, Turkey was compelled to recognise the independence of Greece.

→ Two Balkan Wars of 1912 and 1913 were fought to cast the Turks from Europe.

→ In 1914, the Serbians assassinated the Austrian Prince which led to the outbreak of the 1st World War.

The Eastern Question:-

"These conflicting circumstances or problems which were created due to the divergent interests of all the European powers, other than the Balkan States, on account of the dissolution of the Turkish Empire, is called as the Eastern Question."

→ In the 15th and 16th centuries Turkey had established a large empire over the Balkans and the territory around the Black Sea in the Eastern Europe. But towards the 18th and 19th century, the different Christian nationalities such as the Greeks, Serbs, Rumanians, Bulgarians and Slavs began to exert for their independence.

England's attitude towards the Eastern Question:-

The English politicians dealt the Eastern Question politically. They wanted to keep Turkey a strong empire so that Russian influence could not expand there.

1- England and the Greek War of Independence 1821 to 1829:-

→ The Greeks raised a standard of revolt against Turkey under the direction of Hetairia Philike in 1821. The England did not interfere. → Sultan of Turkey called Egypt for help → Ibrahim from Egypt started massacre of the Greeks then the situation completely changed.

England asked Turkey for a treaty but on the refusal from Turkey, England and Russia started war against Turkey in 1827. Soon, the English troops went back but Russian forces fought and compelled to enter into a Treaty → Treaty of Adrianople 9/1829 → Turkey was compelled to recognise the independence of Greece.

2) Lord Palmerston and the Eastern Question, 1830-41:-

→ ^{9m}1831, Pasha Mehmet Ali of Egypt waged a war against the Sultan of Turkey. In 1832, he attacked Syria and advanced towards Asia Minor. England could not help Turkey due to ^{her} business in Belgian Question.

→ In 1839, Mehmet Ali once again revolted against Turkish Sultan. He defeated ^{Turk} forces and killed Sultan. Palmerston called Russia, Prussia, Austria, France to solve the Eastern Question and presented a proposal but France and Pasha did not accept that proposal and started to advance.

→ In February 1841 Treaty of London was concluded which ended the war between Egypt and Turkey.

3) Disraeli and the Eastern Question:-

In 1870, when Prussia gave a crushing defeat to France, Russia started building up her position in the Black Sea. → In 1877, Czar Alexander II as Russia declared a war on Turkey and defeated her.

→ Disraeli suggested Russia that Treaty of Stefano was against the spirit of the Treaty of Paris of 1856.

→ So Treaty of Berlin concluded among them → different parts of Turkish Empire came under diff England and Russia and many got independence. England got Cyprus: where she could check the Russian expansion in Black Sea.

The Eastern Question from 1878-1913:-

→ In 1908 Austria annexed Bosnia and Herzegovina without intimating the European countries.

→ In 1908, The Turks started forced conversions of Christian subjects.

→ Two Balkan Wars of 1912 and 1913 were fought to oust the Turks from Europe. Consequently all Christian states became independent of Turkey.

→ Austria kept her hold over Balkan states. The Serbians assassinated the Austrian Prince in 1914 which led to outbreak the 1st World War.